


THE CANADA CHRISTIAN MONTHLY.

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Editorial.

THE CHRISTIAN PRESS.

“HE Sword and The Trowel,” Spurgeon’s outspoken Monthly Magazine, contains in its September issue some very severe criticism on the religious press of our day. In an article there “by a city man” the question is asked, “What shall we say of the Christian press?” Here is the answer. “Religious puffs, exaggerated reports of meetings, one-sided biographical sketches, sickly sentimental novels, columns thrown open for the discussion of every species of unbelief, all with the ostensible object of making the paper popular, and thus increasing its sale—is this Christianity? Let the idea of a Christian press be abandoned, or let the spirit of Christ be breathed in every line from the leading article down to the shortest advertisement.”

And again in the same number, in an editorial on the Protestant press, the editor says,—“The workings of a corrupt press awaken our ire, but ‘religious’ journals which trade in sensational theology and trashy tales are still (more?) mischievous as their tendency is to enervate the Christian life. Mushroom papers spring up on all sides, and men without ability, either to spell or write passable English, think themselves competent to fill an editor’s chair, and cramming their papers with the sensationalism of the Old and the New World, they give what costs little and is dear at its price Sermons by New York highfliers, and ‘powerful’ stories form the staple of their trade. . . . If the truth were told in the titles;